

1 1. A semisubmersible vessel comprising:

2 (a) a superstructure deck;

3 (b) a ring pontoon having forward, aft,
4 starboard, and port sections;

5 (c) said forward and aft pontoon
6 sections each having a centerline partition;

7 (d) said superstructure deck supported
8 by at least four columns located near the
9 forward and aft ends of the starboard and
10 port sections of the ring pontoon;

11 (e) a first interior vertical partition
12 in each of ^{said at least four} such columns lying in the
13 same plane as a side of either the forward or
14 aft section of the pontoon ring.

1 2. A semisubmersible vessel according to claim 1
2 further comprising a second interior vertical partition
3 which is transverse to said first interior vertical
4 partition and which lies in the same plane as a vertical
5 interior partition in either the starboard or port section
6 of the pontoon ring.

9. A semisubmersible vessel comprising:

(a) 'a superstructure deck;

(b) a ring pontoon having forward, aft, starboard, and port sections;

(c) said superstructure deck is supported by at least four columns located near the forward and aft ends of the starboard and port sections of the ring pontoon; and

(d) the vertical centerline of each of the columns is located inward of the axial centerlines of the forward, aft, starboard, and port sections of the ring pontoon.

1 10. A semisubmersible vessel comprising:
2 (a) a superstructure deck;
3 (b) a non-square ring pontoon;
4 (c) said superstructure deck is
5 supported by more than four columns located
6 in spaced relation along the ring pontoon.

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